

Appl. No.: 09/977,894
Amdt. Dated 09/10/2007
Reply to Notice of Allowance of 08/23/2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for sharing digital literary works while protecting against an illegal reproduction through a communication network, comprising:
 - a data communication network;
 - a list providing server for providing list information of a Sharing Web;
 - at least one agent server for forming the Sharing Web between users through the data communication network and mediating a data communication through the Sharing Web;
 - at least one user terminal for transmitting and receiving a digital literary work through the Sharing Web;
 - a main server for accessing a Sharing Web listed in the list information provided from the list providing server through the data communication network, searching for the digital literary work shared through the Sharing Web according to a predetermined search condition, determining whether or not the searched digital literary work has an identifier which is associated with at least one of a plurality of variably located portions of the digital literary work, deciding a digital literary work to be shared among the digital literary works, which are inputted by a supervisor and have a identifier, according to the determination result and literary work information requiring the protection, inputted by the supervisor, and generating accessing information of the Sharing Web, the decision regarding whether to share the digital literary work being based only on existence of the identifier in the digital literary work;
 - at least one sub-server for receiving information of the digital literary work decided to be shared and the accessing information of the Sharing Web from the main server, connected to the agent server depending on the accessing information, and allowing a sharing of the digital literary work decided to be shared;

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a premise communication network for connecting the main server and the sub-server to each other; and

a network interface unit for connecting the premise communication network to the data communication network,

wherein a position of the identifier within the digital literary work is determined based ~~an~~ on transmission rules between the main server and the at least one agent server.

2. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sub-server reads a corresponding digital literary work from the main server whenever receiving a file transmission request for the shared digital literary work from the user terminal connected to the sub-server via the Sharing Web, and transmits said read digital literary work to the user terminal.

3. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sub-server pre-reads the digital literary work decided to be shared from the main server and stores it, and transmits the stored digital literary work to the user terminal when receiving a file transmission request from the user terminal connected to the sub-server via the Sharing Web.

4. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is an advertising digital literary work formally produced and distributed for publicity by a writer, a production and distribution company of the literary work, or a server managing company.

5. (Original) The system as set forth in claims 1, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is a digital literary work edited with a reduction in its quality to a level lower than that of an original digital literary work.

6. (Original) The system as set forth in claims 1, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is a digital literary work encrypted with a predetermined encryption key.

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7. (Currently Amended) A method of sharing digital literary works while protecting against an illegal reproduction through a communication network, comprising the steps of:

- a) inputting and storing literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright and a digital literary work having an identifier in a main server by a supervisor, the identifier being associated with at least one of a plurality of variably located portions of the digital literary work;
- b) connecting said main server to an agent server mediating a Sharing Web by the main server, and searching for a digital literary work shared through the Sharing Web according to a search condition set by the supervisor;
- c) downloading the searched digital literary work from the Sharing Web to the main server, determining whether or not the identifier exists in the digital literary work, and deciding the digital literary work to be “pass” or “fail” with respect to its shareability according to the determination result by the main server, the decision regarding shareability being based only on existence of the identifier in the digital literary work;
- d) generating and storing information of a digital literary work to be shared by the main server against the digital literary work decided to be “fail” as to its shareability among the digital literary works having the identifier, according to the literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright; and
- e) accessing the Sharing Web, sharing a list of the digital literary work to be shared, and transmitting the list to the user when a transmission request for the digital literary work to be shared from a predetermined Sharing Web user is received,
wherein a position of the identifier within the digital literary work is determined based ~~an~~ on transmission rules between the main server and the agent server.

8. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein at step d) if there is no search result value corresponding to the search condition, all the digital literary works having the identifier corresponding to the literary work requiring the protection of its copyright inputted by the supervisor are determined to be shared.

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9. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, further comprising the step of calculating a dilution ratio of the number of digital literary works decided to be “pass” as to its shareability to the total number of searched digital literary works.

10. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is an advertising digital literary work, formally produced and distributed for publicity by a writer, a production and distribution company of the literary work, or a server managing company.

11. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is the digital literary work edited with a reduction in its quality to a level lower than that of an original digital literary work.

12. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is a digital literary work encrypted with a predetermined encryption key.

13. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the identifier is inserted into the digital literary work by a server managing company.

14. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the identifier is a watermark.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of sharing digital literary works while protecting against an illegal reproduction through a communication network, comprising the steps of:

a) inputting and storing literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright and a digital literary work having an identifier in a main server by a supervisor, the identifier being associated with at least one of a plurality of variably located portions of the digital literary work;

- b) connecting the main server to an agent server mediating a Sharing Web by the main server, and searching for a digital literary work shared through the Sharing Web according to a search condition set by the supervisor;
- c) downloading the searched digital literary work from the Sharing Web to the main server, determining whether or not the identifier exists in the digital literary work, and deciding the digital literary work to be “pass” or “fail” with respect to its shareability according to the determination result by the main server the decision regarding shareability being based only on existence of the identifier in the digital literary work;
- d) generating and storing information of a digital literary work to be shared by the main server against the digital literary work decided to be “fail” among the digital literary works having the identifier according to the literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright by the main server;
- e) generating and storing accessing information of the Sharing Web, and determining a division of system resources required to share the digital literary work to be shared by the main server;
- f) transmitting a sharing execution command from the main server to a sub-server in response to the division information of system resources; and
- g) connecting the sub-server to the main server, receiving the accessing information of Sharing Web to be accessed and information of the digital literary work to be shared according to the sharing execution command from the main server, accessing the Sharing Web by the accessing information, and allowing a sharing of the digital literary work to be shared, wherein a position of the identifier within the digital literary work is determined based on transmission rules between the main server and the agent server.

16. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein at step d) if there is no search result value corresponding to the search condition, all the digital literary works having the identifier corresponding to the literary work requiring the protection of its copyright, which is inputted by the supervisor, are determined to be shared.

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17. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, further comprising the step of calculating a dilution ratio of the number of digital literary works decided to be "pass" to the total number of searched digital literary works searched.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is the advertising digital literary work, formally produced and distributed for publicity by a writer, a production and distribution company of the literary work, or a server managing company.

19. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is the digital literary work edited with a reduction in its quality to a level lower than that of an original digital literary work.

20. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the digital literary work having the identifier is a digital literary work encrypted with a predetermined encryption key.

21. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the identifier is inserted into the digital literary work by a company of managing the main server and the sub-server.

22. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the identifier is a watermark.

23-25. (Canceled)